GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5355
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2005
WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has earmarked the wasteland which has to be developed by the Government in various parts of the country through public investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the public investment the Government has in principle agreed for the development of wasteland in different States;

(d) the response received by the Government thereon; and

(e) the land so far developed from public investment in the country, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A.NARENDRA):

(a) and (b) As per the `Wasteland Atlas of India, 20001 brought out by the Department of Land Resources in collaboration with the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad, the total extent of wasteland/degraded lands in the country is 63.85 million hectares. Out of which, 36.98 million hectares are treatable non-forest wastelands and 14.065 million hectares are forest wastelands.

(c) and (d) The Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three programmes namely, the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) for treatment of non-forest wastelands/ degraded lands on watershed approach. DPAP and DDP are being implemented in the identified blocks of the country whereas IWDP is being implemented in the non-DPAP/DDP areas of the country. IWDP is a demand driven programme and is being implemented in all the States of the country. DPAP and DDP are being implemented in 16 and 7 States respectively. An amount i Rs. 849.90 crores under IWDP. Rs. 844.99 crores foder DPAP and Rs. 614.78 crores under DDP have ieen released for implementation of the projects under bese programmes during the last three years (2002-03 2004-05). The State-wise details of release of funds nder these Programmes are given in the statement-I inclosed.

(e) Under 1WDR an area of 24.60 lakh hectares, under DPAP an area of 37.81 lakh hectares and under DDP, an area of 23.82 lakh hectares have been sanctioned during the last three years (2002-03 to 2004-05). The State-wise and year-wise details of area sanctioned under these Programmes are given in statement-ll enclosed.